

BARRETT TO THE FARMERS.

PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL UNION SPEAKS AT ST. LOUIS.

Representing Three Million American Farmers, Extends Welcome to Delegates and Others in Attendance Upon Great Rally—First Americans Then Farmers, Who Are Awakening to Their National Responsibilities.

St. Louis, Mo., May 2.—President Barrett began his address by saying: "As the representative of 3,000,000 militant American farmers, whose organized army rests one flank upon the Atlantic and the other upon the Pacific Ocean, I give to you a cordial greeting, which shall know no boundaries of State or section, no narrowness or political partisanship or bigotry, but a tolerance as broad as justice and as wide as that sincerity that underlies our common heritage of American citizenship."

"For first we are Americans! After that we are farmers! And it is as Americans that we greet you in good faith, bidding you rejoice with us in the dawning of that day when the most distinguished men of our nation pay homage to the might and the problems of the long-neglected farmers."

"Without let or hindrance, suppression or censorship, we shall discuss the problems that affect the feeders and clothers of the people—save only that in our deliberations we shall avoid those topics that refer to the hysteria or the passion of partisan politics. As the ultimate analysis let us not forget that the partisan or personal element in politics or statesmanship is transient and passing. That which abides always is principle. And it is lasting principles that we shall debate, free of the embarrassment of that acrimony invariably attending the complication of short lived political platforms or their authors."

Mr. Barrett said: "The American farmer of tradition has been the farmer of the more or less humorous cartoon or caricature, variously represented as fair prey to the green goods man or the gold brick artist."

"And," he continued, "the farmer has been slow in awakening. His environment, in the first place, was against his awakening. The tardiness of facilities for communication, the infrequency with which newspapers penetrated to the far rural districts, and the natural suspicion which is a part of his temperament all militated to keep him in shackles as to his own power and his duty of self-government in the premises."

"The era of sleep is at an end! The era of wakefulness to self-duty, to the obligation of self-help, to the obligation of duty to country is already dawning! I do not say that the farmer as a class is roused to his national importance and to his national obligations. But I do assert with all the emphasis at my command and supported by all the experience of a life time that the heaven or readjustment of revolutionary change is stirring throughout the mass of the American farmer."

After stating that vandalism and graft are being eliminated from our political life, the speaker said: "We are standing more resolutely each day for a literal interpretation of the doctrine of the 'square deal.' We are determined that the people and not the politicians shall rule."

He said: "The Farmers' Union is responsible both for the awakened farmer and the awakened nation, as regards the farmer."

"Our principles and our way of applying them, must be sound, for we have increased from less than 50,000 membership six years ago, to a membership today rising 3,000,000. Throughout the Southern States we are well organized. In the Middle West we are formally organized and our numbers are rapidly growing. This year we have perfected organizations in several of the Western and Pacific slope States, and we shall soon invade New England."

"In the South we have succeeded in obtaining for the farmer a reasonable price for his backbone staple, cotton. That means we have ministered to every phase of Southern commerce, that we have laid every Southerner under obligations to us, for cotton is the financial barometer of the Southern States. In the Middle West we are recording headway in handling in a scientific and equitable manner, wheat and corn. In the far West, we are accomplishing results in the systematizing of the fruit industry, and of general agricultural products."

"The financial success of our programme is important, but it is exceeded by our moral and intellectual progress and evolution. Through our national, State and local organizations, we have been persistently preaching scientific agriculture, diversified agriculture, conservation of soil resources, rotation of crops."

"Our warehouse system in the South, our warehouse and co-operative business enterprises throughout the middle and far West, are revolutionizing the viewpoint of the farmer."

Pleading for sincere, constructive

leadership among the farmers, President Barrett said in the degree that this prevails now and in the days to come, "we shall solve the agricultural problems perplexing the best and most consecrated thought of this country."

He said the selfish leadership is inevitably incendiary and destructive. "For its almost criminally selfish aims, it is willing to turn the farmer against his neighbor, against the merchant, against the banker, against the resident of the city. It is leadership-for-revenue-only, without one redeeming aspiration."

"A distinct part of the rural problem is the cultivation of a better, and a more co-operative spirit between the city man and the country man. After all, they have almost everything in common. We are both interested in the curbing and purging not the destruction of great agencies of civilization. We are both interested in building up a more stanch American citizenship, free of pollution from damaging alien strains, bred and brought up to fulfill the ideal of pure and militant Americanism. And unless we realize this close mutual relation, we shall both suffer."

Speaking of the campaign of the Farmers' Union for the enactment of certain national legislation, Mr. Barrett said: "Politicians in general have paid and are paying more attention to the farmer, and that is because the farmer is paying more attention to the politician. Once let the public officer conceive the idea that he is being watched continually by his constituent, and that the latter is carefully comparing promise with performance, and we shall elevate the standard of public service in this country. I have urged upon Farmers' Union members to refuse to let their attitude toward their Congressman be colored by any trivial gifts on the part of the Congressman, the bribery of a petty office for a relative, or a cordial handshake from the great man himself. The test of worthiness of continued endorsement at the polls, is deeds, not flattery, and that man is a traitor to his country, and to his ideals who betrays his fellows by considering a public obligation cancelled by a private favor."

Continuing he said: "The farmer has gained but a small fraction of his share in the benefits of American development because he deluded himself, or was deluded, into believing he had no control."

"Today, in the might of his interest, and in the strength of his organization, irresistible in its increasing numbers, he is master of the situation."

"The farmer is no longer asleep. In his waking, he is invincible. He demands to be treated, not as the easily deluded, the easily controlled or easily pacified farmer. He demands to be treated as an American citizen, like every other class of American citizens."

"He is no longer pleading. He is commanding. As an American citizen, the most important division of American citizens, he knows his rights. And knowing, the Lord God Almighty has given him the courage to maintain them."

MUST DISPLAY STATE FLAG.

Arrangements Being Made to Enforce Act of the Last General Assembly—Made at Clemson.

Columbia, May 3.—Gov. Ansel said yesterday that arrangements were being made to meet the requirements of the act of the last general assembly, which requires that State flags be placed on all public buildings in the State, including the State house, county court houses and the colleges of the State.

It is required by the act that the State flags be manufactured at Clemson college.

The following is the act passed: "Section 1. Be it enacted by the general assembly of the State of South Carolina: That the State flag shall be displayed daily, except in rainy weather, from a staff upon the State house and every court house, one building of the State university and of each State college and upon every public school building, except when the school is closed during vacation."

"Sec. 2. That it shall be the duty of the officer or officers in charge of said buildings to purchase suitable flags and cause them to be displayed, the expense to be borne out of the funds provided for maintenance."

"Sec. 3. That it shall be the duty of Clemson college to manufacture in its textile department and sell at approximate cost flags of suitable and correct design, which shall consist of blue with white crescent in the upper flagstaff corner, and white palmetto tree in the centre, as prescribed in the resolution adopted by the general assembly, January 28, 1861, to be approved by the secretary of the historical commission."

"Sec. 4. That any person who mutilates, injures or desecrates the flag of the State, wherever displayed as above provided, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction be punished by fine not more than \$100 or imprisonment for not more than 30 days."

ALABAMA LOCAL OPTION WINS.

EMMITT A. O'NEAL NOMINATED FOR GOVERNOR.

Indications Are That Present Senator Will Be Returned by a Handsome Majority.

Montgomery, Ala., May 2.—Emmitt A. O'Neal, leader of the fight against the recent proposed amendment to put prohibition in the constitution of Alabama, defeated H. S. D. Mallory, a supporter of the amendment, by a majority of between 20,000 and 25,000 for governor in the Democratic primaries, held in Alabama today. United States Senator John H. Bankhead received a vote which will probably equal the combined vote of his two opponents, John B. Knox and Frank S. White, and is assured of a new term in the senate.

The claim is made tonight that the majority of the delegates to the State convention, which meets on May 15, will stand for local option and will insist on a modification of the present State-wide prohibition laws. It is also claimed that a majority of the State senate will favor local option, although the attitude of a majority of the members of the house will not be known until later.

It is accepted as certain that the prohibition laws of the State will be modified.

The anti-amendment candidates on the State ticket appear to have made a clean sweep.

The lines drawn in the recent prohibition amendment campaign were maintained in the primary today. The candidates who supported the amendment received practically the same vote as cast for the amendment, while the anti-amendment candidates received the majorities cast in the various counties against the prohibition amendment.

CHILD LABOR IN SOUTHERN MILLS.

The New York Sun Finds Conditions Here Highly Praiseworthy.

(From the New York Sun.)

Some time ago, perhaps three weeks, we took occasion to say that the women and children taken from the smaller Southern farms and employed in the cotton mills were vastly benefited by the transplantation; improved physically and morally, transformed from forlorn and anaemic conditions into conditions of health and activity and vigor, and elevated to higher planes of enlightened well being. Of course, we did not refer to the exceptional mills where searchers after hardship and neglect can find almost any deplorable circumstance they happen to be looking for. We had in view the normal mill towns, representing six-tenths, if not more, of the now progressive industry.

There are mills all over North and South Carolina where so-called "child labor" has been most beneficent, where the mill owners build schools and churches, and for the most part pay the salaries of the teachers and the ministers, where they establish club houses and libraries and kindergartens for the training and development of the youth within their influence, and where the objects of these ministrations emerge from the pallid and unwholesome products of the isolated farms into rosy, happy and perfectly natural children. Some have established bands and military companies, play-grounds, halls for light theatrical entertainments, and behind it all are the sanitary homes, the cooking schools, the system of picnics and other social reunions which illumine life and bring health and knowledge and light spirits to the individual.

It is very easy for muck-rakers, and indeed for honest but misguided reformers inspired by hired agents, to find here and there a mill where inferior conditions do actually prevail. They can photograph mills brilliantly lighted up to prove that they run at night, and show little hands that have lost a finger to prove that the relentless myrmidons of Mammon are grinding innocent children into dust; but the testimony from most of the manufacturing towns and villages of the South we hear a very different story. From Pelzer, S. C., and from Greenville, in the same State, from Charlotte, N. C., from Alabama City, from far and wide, with the testimony of the Young Women's Christian Association and other organized workers for uplift to sustain and illustrate the burden of the proof, we have a tale of rescue and exaltation that ought to fill every doubting heart.

We can hardly imagine that any sincere workers for the toiling classes would wish, or unless grossly misinformed, attempt to destroy or even minimize this perfectly complete and easily accessible evidence; and in that light of the matter we respectfully lodge the esteemed Survey and other ignorant Northern oracles and fall back upon more or less useful testimony.

Three removes are as bad as a fire.—Franklin.

WACCAMAW ITEM IN DANGER.

Representative Ellerbe Hopeful That Appropriation Will Stand.

Washington, May 2.—A rumor was current here today that the conferees on the river and harbor bill had decided to cut out the item of \$36,000 for the Waccamaw River, which had been added in the senate, the house having appropriated \$14,000.

This river is in Representative Ellerbe's district, and when he was asked about the matter he said: "On hearing this rumor I immediately went to the war department and secured all the information possible, which I have filed in writing with the conferees. In addition to this I have personally interviewed the members of the house conference committee about this appropriation, and while I recognize that it is a hard fight, I am hopeful."

Senator Smith, being at his home in South Carolina, could not be seen about the matter.

WAR ON WHITE SLAVES.

Columbus Judge Indicated That Indictments Are Expected.

Columbus, Ga., May 2.—As a result of the charge to the grand jury here today by Judge Gilbert, of the Superior Court, indictments of white slave traffickers are expected to be handed down.

Judge Gilbert told the jurors that New York city was not alone in its horrible examples of the sale of young girls into a life of shame, and made it plain that the court expected indictments returned against several Columbus people.

Railroad Values Measured by Operating Results.

When it is once clearly understood that railroad property is normally and essentially property in motion, and that its value depends primarily on facts connected with never-ceasing action, the starting point has been found for arriving at a true valuation of railroad securities.

If we say that a good piece of railroad mileage, extending from New York to Buffalo, which cost \$2,000,000 to construct fifty years ago, is now over-capitalized because it carries bond and stock issues aggregating \$150,000,000, then we must agree that the whole industrial world is in a state of "overcapitalization." But if we measure railroad values on the basis of operating results, which is the only true way to measure them at all, we will reach a very different conclusion. A line of road stretching from New York to Buffalo, but which is not operating railroad trains and transporting passengers and freight between these points today, would be worth but little more than it was fifty years ago. Whatever increased value it might have now over that of 1866 would be in the mere right of way which it held. But under such conditions it would not be a railroad, and whatever value it might have would not be railroad value, but realty value.

If, however, we measure the value of the railroad by its demonstrated ability to pay interest or dividends on its issues of stocks and bonds, we then get at once at the kernel of the capitalization question. Putting our hypothetical railroad to the test of the earning power of fifty years ago, we would probably find that on a capitalization of \$50,000 per mile it earned hardly 5 per cent. But if we put the same line of road to the test of its earning power today, we would be likely to find that on a capitalization at least ten times as heavy per mile it might be earning far more than 6 per cent. In the year 1863 the Lackawanna Railroad reported a total gross capitalization (stocks and bonds) of about \$50,000 per mile. On this capital the net earnings of that year were but little in excess of 7 per cent. But in the year 1907 the same railroad reported a net capitalization, including the issues on its leased and controlled lines and after deducting investments from its balance sheet, of something more than \$148,000 per mile. On the latter figure the total net income of the road in the year 1907 was more than 18 per cent. Now, if we estimate the capitalization of the Lackawanna on the basis of earning power or net profits we will find that in 1863 the road was overcapitalized to the extent of more than 250 per cent., as compared with the figures shown today, while to put the Lackawanna capitalization on the basis of that of 1863 we would have to increase the present-day figure to over \$420,000 per mile, or nearly three times the present net capitalization.—From "The Real Key to Railroad Investment Values," by John Moody, in the American Review of Reviews for March.

Senator Aldrich all these years has been careful to conceal the fact that he knows nothing about baseball.

Better look into all your marble statues. There might be money hidden in them.

UPHOLDS TRUST CASES.

SUPREME COURT OF UNITED STATES SUSTAINS LOWER COURTS.

One Against the Standard—Decision Affirms Tennessee's Decree of Ouster—Another Disbands Lumber Association.

Washington, May 2.—The hands of the States in their fight against "trusts" were upheld today by the Supreme Court of the United States with telling effects.

The Association of Retail Lumber Dealers in Mississippi and Louisiana was disbanded by affirmation of the decree of the Supreme Court of Mississippi; the Standard Oil Company of Kentucky was ousted from Tennessee by the approval of the decree of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. Both, the State courts had held, violated the anti-trust acts of the respective States.

Justice Lurton announced the opinion of the court in the Mississippi case. It was his first utterance from the Supreme Court bench on the "trust" question.

He said the members of the association had obligated themselves not to deal with any manufacturer or wholesaler in lumber who sold to consumers in the localities in which they conducted a business sufficiently large to meet the demands of the public. He accepted the findings of the State courts and declared that it is an illegal combination and conspiracy under the Mississippi statute.

The proceedings in the Standard Oil case were begun in 1907 under the Tennessee anti-trust act.

The charges against the Standard originated out of a transaction at Gallatin, Tenn. The Standard of Kentucky had oil stored in tanks in Tennessee, from which it procured a supply to serve merchants throughout various sections of the State. The Evansville Oil Company of Evansville, Ind., sent a salesman to Gallatin to sell oil. He obtained a number of orders, whereupon the agent of the Standard Oil offered to give the merchants ten gallons of oil per barrel to countermand their purchase orders with the Evansville Oil Company. Four of them accepted.

The Standard and two of its agents were indicted under the State anti-trust act. One of the agents was convicted, but the Standard escaped punishment on the ground that it could not be fined under the act, but

could only be ousted.

Ouster proceedings were then begun against it, the charges being based on the Gallatin transactions. The State courts issued an ousting decree from which an appeal was taken to the Supreme Court of the United States.

BURNED TO DEATH IN HOME.

Mrs. Martha Means Meets Awful Death in Union.

Union, May 1.—Mrs. Martha J. Means was burned to death at an early hour this morning, when the house in which she lived alone, formerly the home of Robert Beaty, Sr., and situated three miles west of Union, was destroyed by fire. When the fire was first discovered by a negro, who lives in the yard, it had attained considerable headway. This negro at once made every attempt to awaken Mrs. Means, but she, being very deaf, failed to make response. The negro then broke into the house, but the flames enveloped the stairway leading to Mr. Means' rooms on the second floor, and he could not ascend, and nothing was heard from the doomed woman.

It is thought that the fire originated from an oil stove much used by Mrs. Means in preparing lunches. The house was very old and burned like tinder. When relatives of the lady, living in this city, reached the spot after being summoned by negroes living on the place, the house had fallen in. All efforts to find the remains have so far proven unavailing, the heat and cinders preventing close search. Mrs. Means, who was Miss Beaty, was twice married, her first husband being Col Robert Glenn, and the second the late Mr. Albert Means. She was about 70 years of age. The tragedy has shocked the entire community.

Matador Don Jorge Wickersham is to see that no more bulls get into the New York Republican china shop.—Washington Post.

Mr. Taft's railroad bill looks as if it had been in a head-on collision and tossed down an embankment with the other debris.

Still, we imagine that all Europe will be rather glad when the Colonel sails for home.—Charleston News and Courier.

Colonel Bryan is now making his appearance in the role of the Great Denouncer.

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